

ODD USES FOR FISH.

One Makes a Good Barometer, Another a Weathercock.

Fishes have been put to many queer uses while still alive, but probably the strangest was that suggested to the war department by an inventor. The propulsion of submarine torpedoes was the subject under discussion, and he proposed that a shark be imprisoned in a tube at the rear end of the projectile, its movements to be controlled by the active application of electricity. In case the shark attempted to swim away it was to be given an electric shock and in this way kept on its course until the torpedo had reached its target.

Another remarkable use to which a fish has been put is as a barometer. The leach is very susceptible to atmospheric changes, and when retained in an aquarium is likely to throw itself out at the approach of or during any remarkable change of wind or weather, or if in a pond or stream will sometimes jump on the bank. It has been kept alive in aquaria as a living barometer from the supposition that certain movements indicate particular changes that are about to occur in the weather. In Russia the dead body of Cottus gobio, the miller's thumb, is used as a weathercock. Hung by a single thread, it will point to the direction whence the wind blows.—Minneapolis Journal.

Aug. 1.

DULL AT PRESENT.

Outlook for Mackerel Fleet Not Very Encouraging.

Some of the Seiners May Soon Fit for North Bay.

The skippers of the mackerel seiners in port recently say that the schools of mackerel between the Rose and Crown shoal and South Shoal lightship appear to be playing out and grow less every day. The outlook at present is really dull, with what fish there are on the Rips hard to catch and getting scarcer, none reported on Georges, in the Bay of Fundy or on the Maine coast, or anywhere else, for that matter.

It is to be hoped that some of the fleet will soon locate the schools somewhere, if not it is probable that quite a fleet will fit for the North bay.

Schs. Natalie J. Nelson and Speculator landed small fares of fresh mackerel at Provincetown on Thursday.

Steamer Bessie M. Dugan arrived at Boston yesterday with no fish.

The catch of salt mackerel to date is 15,588 barrels against 18,808 barrels at this time last year.

The imports of new salt mackerel at Boston to date is 8879 barrels against 2826 barrels at this time last year.

The catch of fresh mackerel to date is 44,705 barrels against 44,383 barrels at this time last year.

Imports of fresh mackerel to date at Boston are 5202 barrels against 4953 barrels at this time last year.

J. L. Stanley & Co. of Southwest Harbor, Maine, wired yesterday in answer to an inquiry that they heard of no mackerel reported in the Bay of Fundy. Parker Aiken of Yarmouth, N. S., also wired to the same effect.

The Yarmouth steamer yesterday brought 78 barrels of fresh mackerel to Boston.

Aug. 1.

Halibut Sale.

The fare of sch. Teaser sold to the New England Fish Co. at 6 1-2 cents per pound for white and 4 1-2 gray.

Aug. 1.

BIG FARE.

Sch. Jubilee Holds the Lead of the Rips Fleet.

Sch. Jubilee, Capt. Oscar Lyons, arrived yesterday afternoon from a Rips trip, with a fine fare, 54,000 pounds of salt cod. Capt. Lyons, as usual, has been doing big work this season, and is high line of the Rips fleet.

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Olga, Le Have Bank, 9000 lbs. halibut, 18,000 lbs. fresh fish, 7000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Agnes, Le Have Bank, 20,000 lbs. halibut, 30,000 lbs. fresh fish, 4000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Mystery, Le Have Bank, 65,000 lbs. fresh fish, 35,000 lbs. salt fish.

Sch. Grace Otis, Rips, 35,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Edward A. Rich, Rips, 35,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Pinta, Rips, 1000 fresh mackerel.

Today's Fish Market.

Round pollock, 75 cts. per cwt.; gutted 80 cents.

Salt bank cod, large \$3.75, mediums, \$3.10

Salt Rips, cod, large, \$4.20, mediums, \$3.25; snapper \$2.

Salt Georges cod, large \$4.25, mediums, \$3.25.

Salt bank dory handline cod, \$3.87 1-2 per cwt. for large and \$3.25 for mediums.

Grand Bank fresh cod, \$2.00 per cwt. for large, \$1.60 for mediums.

Bank halibut 6 1-2 cts. per lb. for white and 4 1-2 cts. for gray.

Salt pollock, \$1.50; salt haddock, \$1.50.

Fresh mackerel, 15 cts. each for large and 8 cents for mediums.

Late caught salt mackerel, \$14.50 per bbl.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large, \$2.25; mediums, \$1.75; Eastern cod, large, \$2; medium, \$1.60; cusk, \$1.65; haddock, \$1.00; hake, 85 cts.; pollock, to 80 cts.

Boston.

Sch. Louisa R. Sylvia, 10,000 haddock, 22,000 cod, 7000 hake, 1000 pollock.

Sch. Marguerite, 13 swordfish.

Haddock, \$3.75 per cwt.; large cod, \$2.75; market cod, \$2; hake, \$1; pollock, \$1.75; swordfish, 10 cts. per lb.

Aug. 3.

NOW DOING POORLY.

Dory Handliners Lay Ill-Success to Beam Trawlers.

Capt. McCoish of Sch. Richard Brings Report from Quero.

Sch. Richard, Capt. Donald McCoish, arrived from a shack trip to Quero, yesterday, having been four weeks gone, with a good fare, 110,000 pounds of fresh cod and 12,000 pounds of salt fish.

Capt. McCoish reports seeing about all the dory handline fleet about two weeks ago. They were strung out over the bank, mostly on the western part. He was on board sch. Tattler, and Capt. Geel reported having 240,000 pounds of salt cod. He was also on board sch. Arethusa, which had just come on the ground with her bait.

Capt. Geel reported to Capt. McCoish that at one time all the dory handliners had struck pretty good fishing, but that at present all of them were doing poorly. He reported sch. Mildred Robinson as doing well when she first came on the bank.

Both Capt. McCoish and Geel complain of the work of the steam trawlers and claim that they are surely cleaning up the shoal water spots. They say that these trawlers lay around and watch where a handliner is getting some fish and then deliberately drag over the spot, among the dories. The skippers lay the present falling off from the previous good fishing to the work of these steam trawlers.

Capt. McCoish reports that on July 6, about 20 miles east of Portland, a carrier pigeon, exhausted, flew on board. On its leg was this message, "4.40. Good weather. Birdie." Capt. McCoish fed and cared for the bird and next day it flew off as sprightly as ever.

Capt. McCoish also reports speaking schs. Dora A. Lawson, Raymah, Moocnam and the Lunenburg sch. Gladys B. Smith, all on Quero. There was squid on the bank and indications that they would soon be plenty.

Aug. 3.

Good Stock.

Sch. Jubilee, Capt. Oscar Lyons, stocked \$1730 as the result of her recent Rips trip.

Big Catch of Fish.

Perhaps the biggest catch of fish to be taken in one day was captured one day last week by the French trawler Surcouf, Capt. Petit Colas, which arrived here Monday for bunker coal. The trawler met with an accident two weeks ago on the Banks which necessitated her going to St. Pierre for repairs which delayed her ten days, when she proceeded to Quero Bank. After eight hours of fishing the Surcouf weighed anchor for this port, her success during the eight hours amounting to seven thousand fish.—North Sydney Herald.

Aug. 3.

COLLIDED ON GEORGES.

Two of Swordfishing Fleet Came Together Recently.

Sch. Sadie M. Nunan Hit Bow of Sch. Moses B. Linscott.

News of a collision between schs. Sadie M. Nunan and Moses B. Linscott on Georges was brought to Boston yesterday by sch. Angie V. Watson.

Both schooners were out after swordfish and for a few moments it looked as though both might go down. It was owing solely to the moderation of the wind that the accident was not a disaster.

According to the crew of the Watson, which was fishing in the immediate vicinity, both vessels were laying to and the Nunan on the starboard tack had the right of way. The Linscott, according to the crew of the Watson, was on the port tack.

The schooners came together with a crash, the Nunan ramming the Linscott on the starboard bow, carrying off a portion of the rail and tearing the jumbo. The Nunan is said to have escaped injury.

Aug. 3.

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Hattie M. Graham, Rips, 7 bbls. salt mackerel.

Sch. Georgie Campbell, salt banking, 200,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Norman Fisher, Rips, 45,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Sheffeyld, Rips, 35,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Thomas Brundage, Rips, 40,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Carrie C., Georges, 30,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Richard, Quero Bank, 110,000 lbs. fresh cod, 12,000 lbs. salt cod 1800 lbs. halibut.

Sch. Little Fannie, shore, 50 bbls. bluebacks.

Today's Fish Market.

Round pollock, 75 cts. per cwt.; gutted 80 cents.

Salt bank cod, large \$3.75, mediums, \$3.10

Salt Rips, cod, large, \$4.20, mediums, \$3.25; snapper \$2.

Salt Georges cod, large \$4.25, mediums, \$3.25.

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Grand Bank fresh cod, \$2.00 per cwt. for large, \$1.60 for mediums.

Bank halibut 6 1-2 cts. per lb. for white and 4 1-2 cts. for gray.

Salt pollock, \$1.50; salt haddock, \$1.50.

Fresh mackerel, 15 cts. each for large and 8 cents for mediums.

Late caught salt mackerel, \$14.50 per bbl.

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Boston.

Sch. Francis J. O'Hara, Jr., 500 fresh mackerel, 80 bbls. salt mackerel.

Steamer Spray 26,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. Angie B. Watson, 25 swordfish.

Sch. Mildred V. Nunan, 50,000 cod, 15,000 hake, 20,000 cusk, 3 swordfish.

Sch. Morning Star, 20,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 25,000 hake.

Sch. Albert Geiger, 4500 haddock, 4000 cod, 2000 hake.

Sch. George E. Lane, Jr., 4000 haddock, 14,000 cod.

Sch. Joseph P. Johnson, 7000 haddock, 40,000 cod.

Aug. 3.

Sch. Flora J. Sears, 30,000 haddock, 1000 cod.
 Sch. Seaconnet, 17,000 haddock, 4000 cod, 4000 hake.
 Sch. Mattakesett, 14,000 haddock, 12,000 cod, 2000 pollock.
 Sch. Nettie Franklin, 12,000 haddock, 47,000 cod, 3000 hake.
 Sch. Fannie Belle Atwood, 15,000 haddock, 5000 cod.
 Sch. Mary B. Greer, 20,000 haddock, 45,000 cod, 10,000 pollock, 1 swordfish.
 Sch. Clara G. Silva, 20,000 haddock, 60,000 cod.
 Sch. Ignatius Enos, 1000 cod, 1000 pollock.
 Sch. Rose Dorothea, 5000 haddock, 44,000 cod, 1000 hake, 10,000 pollock.
 Sch. Elthier, 25 bbls. blue backs.
 Sch. Mary C. Santos, 10,000 haddock, 55,000 cod.
 Sch. Annie and Jennie, 9000 cod, 2000 pollock.
 Sch. Robert and Carr, 38 swordfish.
 Haddock, \$3 to \$3.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$2.50 to \$2.75; market cod, \$1.75 to \$2; pollock, \$1.25 to \$1.80; hake, \$1 to \$2; swordfish, 12 cts. per lb.; fresh mackerel, 25 cts. each.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Charles A. Dyer had 100 barrels of bluebacks at Boston Saturday.
 Schs. Arethusa and Blanche were at Canso on Friday and sailed, both clearing for the Newfoundland coast.

The traps at Liverpool, N. S., took 10 barrels of mackerel Friday and a few were taken at Lunenburg.

Mackerel Notes.

Sch. Francis J. O'Hara, Jr., was the only seiner at Boston early this morning. She has 80 barrels of salt mackerel which she carried out with her last trip and 500 large fresh mackerel, which sold at 25 cents each.

Aug. 4.

SPOKE MANY BANKERS.

All Were Finding Squid and Fish Scarce on Quero Bank.

Skippers All Complaining Bitterly of Work of Beam Trawlers.

Capt. Thomas Flannigan of the salt banker Georgie Campbell, reports speaking sch. Gladstone of Provincetown on Quero eastern shoal water recently. Her skipper reported fish and squid scarce there and sailed for the western part of the bank.

Capt. Flannigan also reports seeing sch. J. J. Flaherty on Quero recently. Capt. Le Blanc said that squid were scarce and fishing poor, what little there was doing being on the western part of the bank.

He also saw several of the Nova Scotia fleet and all reported the same as skippers of the Gladstone and Flaherty and were complaining bitterly about the work of the steam trawlers, which, they said were killing the shoal water fishing.

BAIT IS PLENTY.

Telegraphic Reports Received by Prominent Skipper Yesterday.

Regarding the bait situation, the following telegrams were received here yesterday by one of the leading skippers of the salt bank fleet.

From Burgeo, N. F., the word was that there were plenty of squid there and three vessels baited there Saturday.

From St. Pierre, Miquelon, reported plenty of squid since 15 days ago, selling 20 cents per hundred. Few schooners there from the different banks, having had good fishing.

From Liverpool, N. S., the report was plenty of squid at Lunenburg and plenty of herring at Port Matoun, although the heavy gale Sunday may have broken them up.

Another Advance in Rips Cod.

The fare of Rips salt cod of sch. Thomas Brundage sold to William H. Jordan & Co. at \$4.25 per hundred weight for large and \$3.25 for mediums. This is a five cents raise on the large fish.

Aug. 4.

Another Salt Banker Home.

Sch. Georgie Campbell, Capt. Thomas Flannigan, arrived home Saturday evening from a salt bank cod fishing trip with 200,000 pounds of salt cod. All but two of the salt bank fleet, schs. Arcadia and Judique, have now been home from their first trips.

Aug. 4.

GOT SKY HIGH PRICES.

Sch. Electric Flash Lucky Craft with Fresh Mackerel.

Struck Bare Market and Will Profit Well Accordingly.

Sch. Electric Flash, Capt. William Bissert, broke the fresh mackerel famine this morning by arriving here just after midnight with a nice fare, 5000 large fresh mackerel 25 barrels of salt mackerel.

Capt. Bissert reports getting his haul late Saturday afternoon on the Rips. About all the fleet set, but beside the Flash and sch. Effie M. Prior, which got a dory load, none of the others stopped any fish.

The Electric Flash got her haul off Sankaty Head and at the time about 15 sail were in the immediate vicinity.

Capt. Bissert reports that about all the fleet have been cruising between the Rose and Crown shoal and the South Shoal lightship, but on Thursday 12 sail got tired of this and started on a cruise to the southeast part of Georges.

Capt. Bissert says that there appears to be still quite a lot of fish on the Rips but that it is almost impossible to catch them, the fish being wild and the fog, almost constant, also greatly bothering the fishermen.

The Electric Flash has been doing big work, especially since coming from the Cape Shore and few if any have done better in the same time. In consequence there are very few vessels now ahead of her and Capt. Bissert is right up in the front rank, which is very gratifying to his many friends.

The Rippers which come from the eastern part of Georges report no sign of mackerel. They also spoke several of the swordfishermen who had been hanging on the southeast part of the bank and they reported no mackerel there.

At Boston yesterday the Yarmouth steamer had 140 barrels of fresh mackerel from the traps at Liverpool, Lunenburg and vicinity. From Cape Cod, 45 barrels were also sent up yesterday. Some horse mackerel also came up on the Yarmouth boat.

Capt. Roy Kimball has sent down the fore topmast on sch. Hattie M. Graham and is fitting that craft for a mackerel trip to the North Bay, being the first vessel to get ready to go there this season.

A telegram received here yesterday from Tignish, P. E. I., in answer to an inquiry regarding mackerel around here says, "Hear of nothing here; codfishermen have seen none and we hear of none anywhere."

Another telegram from North Sydney, C. B., says, "Nothing reported around here lately."

Sch. Charles A. Dyer at Boston Sunday with a load of bluebacks, taken off Plymouth, culled out 400 mackerel from among the lot.

The fresh mackerel of sch. Electric Flash were sold to A. F. Rich of Boston at 21 1-2 cents for large and 15 cents each for mediums. The fish will be shipped to Boston.

Aug. 4.

FINE FISHING.

Sch. Thomas S. Gorton Makes Quick Two Week's Trip.

Found Spot of Codfish on "Horse Shoe" of Western Bank.

Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, Capt. William H. Thomas, arrived yesterday afternoon from Western bank, with a fine fare, 160,000 pounds of fresh codfish.

The fare was caught in very quick time. The vessel left here two weeks ago last Thursday and went to Provincetown for a baiting of squid, sailing from there the following Monday, so that she has been only two weeks out.

The vessel fished on the northwest prong of the bank, around what is known as the "horse shoe," and struck fine fishing. No squid were seen on the bank and none were found in the fish. Capt. Thomas reports seeing no vessels excepting two when he first came on the ground, but he was not near enough to make them out.

The trip is a fine one and Capt. Thomas is keeping up what everybody expects of him quick trips and big fares.

Aug. 4.

Shack Trip Sale.

The fare of sch. Richard sold to Lane & Smith at \$2 per hundred weight for large fresh cod, \$1.60 for mediums, \$3.80 for large salt cod and \$3.15 for mediums.

It Sounds Well.

In discussing the new Canso, N. S., steam trawler, one of the directors of the company said recently: "Something had to be done to increase the interest in fishing as a profitable industry and the trawler may do it. The work is made less hazardous, and the ship being strong, comfortable, clean, and, on the whole, a pleasant place to live, it may make our young men more disposed to take up deep sea fishing."

It is proposed to have a display at the provincial exhibition of the strange fish brought up by the steam beam trawlers. A. H. Whitman, of Halifax, has been appointed superintendent of the whole fisheries exhibit. —New York Fishing Gazette.

England's Fisheries Show Falling Off.

The total value of the fish landings on the coast of the United Kingdom for the first half of this year have not, when compared with those for the corresponding period of the year before, the favorable appearance of the figures twelve months ago. In fact, the grand total for the three kingdoms, 4,876,715 pounds, shows a decline, 299,694 pounds, almost as big as the increase recorded, 319,956 pounds, this time last year, while the half-yearly 1907 total showed in 1905 a rise of no less than 615,421 pounds.

A Mighty Good Thing.

United States government employes have located the much needed buoys along the Merrimac river channel, and a long felt want has been at last filled, as will be attested to by the owners of motor boats on the river and navigators in general who have to operate boats.

Canso Steam Trawler Going Salt Banking.

The trawler Wren has returned to Canso and is now fishing at Quero, on a salt fishvoyage. It is claimed she has been doing good average work ever since her arrival on this side of the Atlantic. Her catch will be landed at Halifax.

Aug. 4.

A Curious Fish.

A curious fish was taken recently from Job's trap at St. Johns, N. F. It measures about 3 1-2 feet from head to tail and about 2 feet across, while it resembles a young harp seal in size. The most extraordinary thing about it is the tremendous mouth, which is capable of receiving a 30-pound butter tub, easily. The back is dark brown and glossy, as if varnished, while the bottom part is almost white. There are two small hands underneath, resembling a child's, and apparently were used in crawling along the bottom. It has two powerful fins like a seal's flippers, while for a tail it has a scudder. The head is flat, with the eyes in the top.

Aug. 4.

Grimsby Steam Trawlers Doing Poorly.

It is said that Grimsby steam trawler owners are being very hard hit by poor catches and unremunerative sales. As an illustration of this, one large firm of trawler owners states that for the first six months of the year the earnings of their boats are down to 5,000 pounds below last year, and that they did not do worse during the great fishing dispute. According to the present outlook there will be few if any dividends at Grimsby this year, and leaders of the trade state that the crisis an acute one.

Aug. 4.

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Electric Flash, Rips, 5000 large fresh mackerel, 25 bbls. salt mackerel.

Sch. Flora J. Sears, via Boston, 25,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Mildred V. Nunan, via Boston, 80,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Clara G. Silva, via Boston, 80,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Marsala, Rips, 30,000 lbs. salt cod. Steamer Mystery, shore, 100 bbls. bluebacks.

Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, Western Bank, 160,000 lbs. fresh cod.

Sch. Estelle S. Nunan, swordfishing.

Sch. Reliance, shore.

Sch. Mary Emerson, shore.

Sch. Bryda F., shore.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Marguerite Haskins and Illinois, seining.

Sch. Almeida, Rips.